

1. *What was / has been your occupation before entering politics?*

I have been an Elementary classroom teacher for 23 years. Previous to that, I served as an officer in the Canadian Army Forces Reserve for 17 years.

2. *Do you live in the riding and, if so, how long has it been your home?*

I live in the city of Cornwall in Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry. I have lived here for nearly 29 years.

3. *What has been your main involvement with your community outside of work (volunteer activities, etc.)?*

I have been a volunteer in local Service Clubs as well as a Board member on United Way, Labour Council and the SDG Legal Aid Clinic.

4. *In your life what event, or book, or speech, or song or even TV show has made the biggest impression on you and your political thinking? Why?*

There have been two speeches in history that have inspired my political thinking. The first, and in reverse historical order is Martin Luther King Jr's 1963 "I have a Dream" speech and the 1941 "Finest Hour" speech by Winston Churchill. Both speeches were delivered at critical moments when people needed to act together to overcome oppression. Martin Luther King spoke so eloquently to end civil and economic persecution and called on all peoples to end racism. Winston Churchill spoke to inspire the people of Great Britain to fight against a Nazi invasion. We must also Fight On and Choose Forward.

5. *What previous politician (alive or dead, but not currently in parliament) is a role model for you?*

Pierre Elliot Trudeau is the Canadian Politician who inspired me. Trudeau's travels and studies abroad helped shape his ideas on the path he believed Canada needed to take. His resolve to remake Canada has strengthened our national identity to become the pluralistic, bilingual and compassionate country that we are today. Repatriating the Constitution to Canada was Trudeau's greatest achievement. No longer did we have to negotiate with a foreign country to make important changes to our Confederation. Canada achieved nationhood by compromise and political evolution. No longer beholden to an "old country" we finally achieved political adulthood.

6. *What policy in your party's platform do you think matters most to the people in your riding?*

As I have travelled through my riding I am absolutely struck by how the number one issue with our constituents is the Environment and Climate Change. Regardless of people's age or lifestyle, worry about the future of our planet is overwhelmingly their first concern. Canadians do not want to be on the wrong side of the history in the Climate crisis. I am proud the Liberal government has placed a price on carbon and is committed to making real change to protect our global environment. The residents of SDSG know that sacrifices need to be made to ensure our environmental survival.

7. *Recent polls suggest many Canadians are disillusioned with politics. If elected, what would you do to address those concerns?*

I do not believe Canadians are so much disillusioned with politics but wish it was not so antagonistic. We have seen Populism sweep the planet and Canadians are weary of the political "score settling" that is the result. As a country that prides itself on Peace and Good Order we need to rediscover the virtues of respectful dialogue. As a teacher I have always worked to empower students to express their opinions, try to reach compromise and learn from all of our mistakes. Fixing the Problem and not the Blame in our political arenas will see greater outcomes.